



The 12th Edition

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Friday, June 11, 2004

News Briefs

Commanders Call

Lt. Gen. Mark Schmidt, 12th Air Force commander, will host a Commanders Call and Barbecue at 2 p.m. July 1. The event takes place in the 12th Air Force Ramada and kicks off the Fourth of July holiday weekend.

ACC Family Day

By order of Gen. Hal Hornburg, commander of Air Combat Command, Friday, July 2, is an ACC Family Day. This starts a four-day weekend that ends with Monday, July 5, the observation of Independence day.

Blood Drive

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive June 16 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Desert Oasis Enlisted Club. People with 'O' blood types are especially needed because anyone can receive their blood.

Personnel returning from recent deployments may still be able to give blood. The following rules apply:

1. People who are forward deployed, especially to Iraq, Afghanistan or Africa, for fewer than six months, are deferred for one year
2. Anyone who spends more than six months at a forward location is deferred for three years.
3. Service-members deployed to some locations, such as Qatar, may have no deferment at all.

For more information about donation guidelines, visit www.tricare.osd.mil/asbpo/.

We need story ideas. If your work center has a new mission or some hi-tech equipment, let us know -- 228-6053.

12th Air Force comes home



(Left) Tech. Sgt. Tom Nadeau, 12th Air Force, waits ready to catch his daughter, Bailey, as she walks over to him. Prior to being deployed, Bailey could only take a few steps. Sergeant Nadeau is now overjoyed to see his daughter walking for the first time. (Below) Staff Sgt. Bruce Zimmerman, 12th Air Force, hugs his sleepy son Wyatt for the first time on his return from a recent deployment. (Below Left) Staff Sgt. Barb Thompson, 12th Air Force, reunites with husband, Tech. Sgt. Tony Thompson, 12th Air Force, and their two children Bri and Tyler. Members of 12th Air Force returned Monday from deployments in support of the war on terrorism.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Lanie McNeal



(Left) Brig. Gen. Mark Stearns, 12th Air Force Vice Commander, greets members of 12th Air Force. (Above) In a waiting area returnees wait for their luggage to be brought over from the airplane they came in on.

Maj. Michael Johanek is greeted by his wife, Erika, and children, Gabrielle and Jackson, who stayed up way past bedtime to catch a glimpse of daddy early Monday morning.

Safety is main focus during 101 critical days

By Lt. Gen. Mark Schmidt
12th Air Force commander

As we continue the 101 Critical Days of Summer, I want each and every commander and supervisor to stress personal risk management as a fundamental tool in our off-duty mishap prevention efforts. Operational risk management reduces mishaps in your work centers, and I encourage you to use these same principles in your off-duty endeavors. We must ensure that emphasis on safety permeates throughout every organization year round.

Current events remind us how important safety is. Recently 12th Air Force lost two of our valued warriors in separate preventable incidents—a motor vehicle accident where the individual was

not wearing a seatbelt and a boating incident. Additionally, a third individual received severe burns on his face and hands at a unit barbecue. So far this fiscal year, we have lost eight members. In each case it is easy to identify where judgment and decision making broke down.

As our people make plans for some well-deserved rest and recreation, they will participate in various activities, many of which involve increased risks. As such, the potential for mishaps also increases. Supervisors need to take a proactive role in discussing personal risk management and increased safety awareness with their people. Take time to ensure the risk management process is communicated to everyone in your organization. Create a

mindset in our people that fosters the awareness of risk and the actions necessary to control or minimize its effects.

Supervisors at all levels must know their people and be aware of plans to pursue increased-risk activities. As we enter the summer months, encourage your people to enjoy the time-off with family and friends. As they do so, let every one of them know that they are an important and valued member of the Air Force Team. We cannot afford to lose another member of our Air Force family in off-duty mishaps.

Last year we lost four 12th Air Force members during the 101 Critical Days of Summer. This year lets work together to make it zero. Have fun and be safe.

SALUTE!

Congratulations to 12th Air Force warriors who recently were – or soon will be – promoted to the rank indicated and those who were recently awarded medals recognizing their accomplishments

Airman
Daniel Gonzalez
Jason Zorn

Staff Sergeant
Geronimo Moreno
Jeremy Sunshine

Meritorious Service Medal
Tech. Sgt. Robin Boyd

Technical Sgt
Trisha Giordano

Master Sgt
Craig Brown
Wiley Tibbetts
Denise Webb



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A Lieutenant Colonel who recently returned from Afghanistan

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Top of the Twelfth

Senior Airman Brad Peterson is a weather forecaster for the 25th Operational Weather Squadron.

According to his supervisor, Staff Sgt. Jack Manigold, also with the 25th OWS, Airman Peterson exceeds every standard. He displays extensive career field knowledge and works endlessly to increase his technical abilities.

Airman Peterson, a role model for other Airmen, has built a strong rapport with the surrounding community. He spends his off time working within his church, as well as on various community projects. He is currently attending Pima Community College, where he maintains a perfect 4.0 average. He is working hard towards his Community College of the Air Force degree and needs only 15 credits to finish.

Years of service: 2

Hometown: Mesa, Ariz.

Primary Duties and Responsibilities: Develops and issues weather watches, warnings and advisories to safeguard resources at 39 Air Force and Army sites spread across three



western states. He prepares and disseminates 24-hour forecasts for eight airfields, supporting aircrews operating over 500 aircraft, worth more than 21 billion dollars.

Favorite aspects of 12 AF: Davis-Monthan is constantly changing and improving to meet the needs of the community.

I feel that the new fitness center and staff is the best aspect of this base. I don't think you could find a better gym anywhere else!

If you could change one thing about D-M, what would it be? The only thing I would change about D-M is to add new tennis and racquetball courts to replace the current courts. If new courts are not possible, I would want the existing courts to be resurfaced and repainted.

What motivates your winning attitude? My family motivates my winning attitude. My father and grandfather both served in the Air Force so I feel it is my duty to perform as well as they did and to sacrifice all I have for the future generation, just like they did for me!



Courtesy photo

Waiting patiently

Recently, more than 3,500 Jamaicans in rural St. Elizabeth received free health care from the U.S. Military. The free clinics were run by a 10-member team of medical doctors and nurses from the United States Air Force, who provided the St. Elizabeth residents with general medicine, eye and dental care and obstetric and gynecology services. In addition, residents received free medication.

The U.S. medical group traveled to Ministry of Health Clinics in St. Elizabeth, treating residents in Santa Cruz, Lacovia, Southfield, Junction and Burnt Savanna. A large number of men, women, children, and elderly patients were able to see a doctor, nurse or midwife, free of cost.

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